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# Assembly California Legislature



**LUIS A. ALEJO**  
ASSEMBLYMEMBER, TWENTY-EIGHTH DISTRICT

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June 13, 2011

Mr. Trevor Joseph, Project Manager  
California Department of Water Resources  
DIRWM, Financial Assistance Branch  
Sacramento, CA 94236-0001

Re: Department of Water Resources' Draft Recommendation for Funding the Proposed Greater Monterey County Integrated Regional Water Management Project

Dear Mr. Joseph,

I am writing to express my strong continued support for the Greater Monterey County Integrated Regional Water Management (IRWM) Project. I urge you to approve the draft recommendation to fund the Round 1, FY 2010-11 Implementation Grant. The Greater Monterey County IRWM reflects the growing collaboration among water stakeholders in the region, all committed to the improvement of water conservation, quality and fair distribution to disadvantaged communities.

One of my priorities is to ensure affordable, equitable and sustainable water supply for local residents, businesses and farmers, while creating a strong economy and healthy environment. The San Jerardo Waste Water Project would provide safe water to the residents of the San Jerardo Cooperative who are currently threatened by the nitrate contamination of their drinking water. The Soledad Recycled Water Project would provide farmers and recreation areas with recyclable water instead of potable water. The Integrated Ecosystem Restoration of Elkhorn Slough would restore up to 90 acres of salt marsh in order to provide more habitable land and allow for flood protection projects to take place.

I am pleased that the City of Soledad—the lead agency in this regional effort—has received a draft recommendation for funding. I urge you to approve their request for funding so that this landmark project can begin. While the recommended grant is for 85% of the project's costs, I would sincerely appreciate the Department's consideration to fund the project in its entirety, including the remaining 15% of costs. Should you have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact me.

Sincerely,

LUIS A. ALEJO  
Assemblymember, 28<sup>th</sup> District

